

South Carolina
Department of Transportation
Office of Legal Services

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January 9, 2008

Hon. Charles L.A. Terreni, Chief Clerk Public Service Commission of South Carolina PO Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: Docket No. 2007-328-C

Petition of SCDOT for Implementation of 511 Service

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing are an original and ten copies of the Department's (Petitioner's) MOTION FOR EXPEDITED RULING ON PETITION ON THE BASIS OF VERIFIED TESTIMONY. I would appreciate your filing this with the case record and notifying me of any hearings or further proceeding regarding the motion.

I have mailed copies of the foregoing to all counsel for interveners and to counsel for the Office of Regulatory Staff.

Very truly yours,

Beacham O. Brooker, Jr.

Cc: Nanette S. Edwards

Patrick W. Turner Margaret M. Fox Steve W. Hamm

C. Jo Anne Wessinger Hill

Scott Elliott

bobjr:

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2007-328-C

In re:

Petition of the South Carolina Department of Transportation for Implementation of 511 Service for Travel Information

### MOTION FOR EXPEDITED RULING ON PETITION ON THE BASIS OF VERIFIED TESTIMONY

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) respectfully moves the Commission to forego the formal hearing scheduled in this matter and rule on the basis of the Petition and the verified direct testimony of Tony S. Sheppard.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

SCDOT filed with the Commission a Petition by letter dated September 7, 2007, from H. B. Limehouse, Secretary, to the Clerk, seeking an order designating 511 as the abbreviated telephone dialing code for travel information in South Carolina and asking that SCDOT be designated the lead agency in the State to administer that service. After docketing, petitions to intervene were filed on behalf of Verizon South, Inc. United Telephone Company of the Carolinas, the South Carolina Telephone Coaldian, and BellSouth Telecommunications Incorporated and those entities are parties record hereto. The Commission issued its Notice of Hearing on October 22, 2007, setting forth dates for prefiled testimony and rebuttals. A Notice of Rescheduled Hearing was issued

January 2, 2008, establishing the hearing date hearing as January 30, 2008. SCDOT filed verified testimony of its employee, Tony S. Sheppard in support of its petition on November 19, 2007. Prior to the date directed for filing responses, letters were filed from the Office of Regulatory Staff and United Telephone Company of the Carolinas. Neither interposed any objection to the petition and direct testimony. No other parties filed responses prior to the deadline.

### II. FACTS SUPPORTING REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING.

As set forth in the Petition and in Mr. Sheppard's testimony, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on July 31, 2000, issued a report and order on a petition by the U.S. Department of Transportation finding the assignment of a nationwide, easy to remember three-digit dialing code for non-emergency transportation information to be in the public interest. The FCC identified 511 for this purpose but concluded that the various state public service commissions should retain jurisdiction to actually implement 511. To date 27 states including North Carolina and Georgia have implemented 511. SCDOT will be prepared to launch its system October 1, 2008. Correspondence has been exchanged with all land-line carriers in South Carolina and a number of wireless carriers. All have indicated that they will be able to program the translation of the 511 number on their systems by that date.

The 511 system will be a state-of-the-art information network that will provide real-time, route-specific information on all types of surface travel through landline and wireless telephones. The system will allow commuters and travelers to make more

efficient use of the State's transportation infrastructure through better informed choices as to where and when to travel.

SCDOT has statutory authority pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §57-3-110(3) to regulate traffic and travel on the State Highway System and believes that it is the most appropriate agency to administer a program of this State-wide scope. No other public entity has expressed an interest in implementing or managing 511.

#### III. CONCLUSION

Upon the understanding (with Petitioner's agreement) that previously filed tariffs for this service not be affected by the Order counsel of all interveners in this proceeding have consented to this motion as evidenced by the signatures that follow. For the foregoing reasons, SCDOT requests that its Petition be granted at the earliest possible Agenda Session on the basis of the record.

Submitted this ninth day of January, 2008.

Bv:

Beacham O. Brooker, Jr. Assistant Chief Counsel

**SCDOT** 

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I consent:

Nanette S. Edwards

Office of Regulatory Staff

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# MOTION FOR EXPEDITED RULING ON PETITION ON THE BASIS OF VERIFIED TESTIMONY POOCET NO. 2007-328-C fust

I consent

Patrick W. Turner

P.O. Box 752

Columbia SC, 29202

Attorney for BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina d/b/a AT&T Southeast

I consent

Majauf M. Jax M. John Bowen, Jr.

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Post Office Box 11390

Columbia SC, 29211

Attorneys for the South Carolina Telephone Coalition

I consent

Steve W. Hamm

C. Jo Anne Wessinger Hill

Richardson Plowden Carpenter & Robinson, P.A.

P.O. Box 7788

Columbia SC, 29202

Attorney for Verizon South Incorporated

I consent

Scott Elliott

Elliott & Elliott, P.A.

721 Olive Street

Columbia SC, 29205

Attorney for United Telephone Company of the Carolinas d/b/a Embarq

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2007-328-C

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Petition of the South Carolina Department of Transportation for Implementation of 511 Service for Travel Information

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I certify that I have caused a copy of the below-mentioned documents to be served upon the following party by depositing same in the United States mail, with postage prepaid and affixed thereto, addressed as follows, this day of January, 2008.

#### **Pleadings Served:**

(1) Motion for Expedited Ruling of Petition on the Basis of Verified Testimony

### **Parties Served:**

Nanette S. Edwards Office of Regulatory Staff PO Box 11263 Columbia, SC 29211

Patrick W. Turner
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Attorney for Verizon South Incorporate
Scott Elliott
Elliott & Elliott, PA
721 Olive Street
Columbia, SC 29205
Attorney for United Telephone Company of

the Carolinas, d/b/a Embarq

SWORN TO BEFORE ME in Columbia, South Carolina, this day of January, 2008.

Dana L. Ammer, Paralegal

Amandal Juphulle Ingler Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: 8-7-08